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industrial standardization, has offered Secretary Hoover the use of its machinery in carrying out the detailed work on technical projects initiated in the simplification program of the Department of Commerce. The committee hopes to be of great value to Mr. Hoover in this simplification program of the department. It was as a result of this hope that the designation of Mr. Stevenson as a representative came about.

The American Engineering Standards Committee has been actively at work somewhat over two years, during which time it has brought about a large measure of industry-wide co-operation. In this work more than a hundred national organizations are participating through representatives officially designated by them. The formulation of the standard for each specific project is in the hands of a working committee made up of representatives officially designated by the various bodies concerned. Eighteen standards have received formal approval as nationally recognized standards, and work on more than sixty other projects is in various stages of development. The committee is maintained jointly by twenty-nine national organizations, including five departments of the federal government, nine national engineering societies, and fifteen national industrial associations.

There are now similar national industrial standardizing bodies in thirteen foreign countries, all but one of which were formed during or since the war. Of these the British and the German work is the most extensive, but active and important work is going forward in other countries.

#### COMPETITIVE EXHIBITION OF PHOTOGRAPHS OF MAMMALS AT THE AMERICAN MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY

THE American Museum of Natural History plans to hold a competitive exhibition of photographs of mammals at the time of the annual meeting of the American Society of Mammalogists. These photographs will be exhibited in the halls of the museum and all entries must be made on or before May 10. These photographs will be on exhibition to the general

public for one month. Prizes will be offered for the best photographs, and the conditions of entry are as set forth below:

1. Only such photographs will be accepted for exhibition as are deemed suitable by the committee.

2. Photographs will be exhibited and judged under two categories: *first*, photographs of mammals in the wild state; *second*, photographs of mammals in captivity. Photographs of domestic mammals are not desired.

3. The American Society of Mammalogists will be asked to select the judges who will award the prizes.

4. Photographs may be of any size, but they should be affixed to cardboard or paper mat, preferably gray. No photograph should be sent unmounted. Contestants may submit any number of photographs.

5. The installation of the exhibition will be done by the museum, and all entries will be returned, postpaid, if desired by the exhibitor. The museum, however, would be pleased to accept for its files any photographs of especial interest. While the museum will exercise every possible care of the material exhibited, it does not assume any responsibility for loss or damage.

6. Cash prizes will be awarded as follows: for the best photographs of mammals in the wild state: First prize, \$100; second prize, \$60; third prize, \$40; for the best photographs of mammals in captivity: First prize, \$50; second prize, \$30; third prize, \$20. A certificate of honorable mention will be awarded to not more than five additional exhibitors in each category.

Committee on exhibition: H. E. Anthony, Herbert Lang, Robert C. Murphy, G. Clyde Fisher.

#### ANNUAL MEETINGS OF THE AMERICAN GEOPHYSICAL UNION AND ITS SECTIONS

THE American Geophysical Union and its several sections met, March 6-8, at the offices of the National Research Council, Washington, D. C., to hear reports of committees, to consider the agenda for the meetings in Rome, May, 1922, of the International Geodetic and

Geophysical Union, and to elect officers. The meetings were well attended and several of the sections reported gratifying progress in their respective fields.

The delegates selected to represent the Union and its sections at the Rome meetings are:

Geodesy: Wm. Bowie, United States Coast and Geodetic Survey, Washington, D. C.

Seismology: Harry Fielding Reid, Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, Md.

Meteorology: H. H. Kimball, United States Weather Bureau, Washington, D. C.

Terrestrial Magnetism and Atmospheric Electricity: L. A. Bauer, Carnegie Institution, Washington, D. C.

Physical Oceanography: G. W. Littlehales, Hydrographic Office, Washington, D. C.

Volcanology: H. S. Washington, Geophysical Laboratory, Washington, D. C.

The officers, as of July 1, 1922, are:

The Union: L. A. Bauer, *chairman*; A. L. Day, *vice-chairman*; Wm. Bowie, *secretary*.

Geodesy: John F. Hayford, *chairman*; R. L. Faris, *vice-chairman*; N. L. Bowen, *secretary*.

Seismology: W. J. Humphreys, *chairman*; J. B. Woodworth, *vice-chairman*; D. L. Hazard, *secretary*.

Meteorology: E. H. Bowie, *chairman*; R. DeC. Ward, *vice-chairman*; A. J. Henry, *secretary*.

Terrestrial Magnetism and Atmospheric Electricity: W. F. G. Swann, *chairman*; L. A. Bauer, *vice-chairman*; J. A. Fleming, *secretary*.

Physical Oceanography: J. P. Ault, *chairman*; G. W. Littlehales, *vice-chairman*; W. E. Parker, *secretary*.

Volcanology: L. H. Adams, *chairman*; T. A. Jaggar, *vice-chairman*; R. B. Sosman, *secretary*.

Geophysical Chemistry: H. S. Washington, *chairman*; Whitman Cross, *vice-chairman*; R. B. Sosman, *secretary*.

W. J. HUMPHREYS,  
*Secretary for the Union*

#### LECTURES ON LIGHT AND THE CONSTITUTION OF MATTER AT THE UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN

PROFESSOR H. A. LORENTZ, of Leiden, Holland, is delivering a series of four lectures on the general subject of Light and the Constitution of Matter at the University of Wisconsin from March 20 to 27. Following the lectures, on March 30, 31, and April 1, a colloquium, on

the "Fundamental concepts of electro-dynamics and of the electron theory," will be held in his honor. As shown in the following program, the papers presented will summarize the present status in various fields with especial reference to the unsolved problems and the relation between theory and experiment. Dr. Lorentz will respond to each, and general discussion will be invited. The university extends a cordial invitations to attend both the lectures and the colloquium to all persons interested.

#### Program:

##### THURSDAY, MARCH 30

*The experimental basis for the laws of electro-dynamic action:* W. F. G. SWANN, University of Minnesota.

*Astrophysical evidence concerning radiant energy:* HARLOW SHAPLEY, Harvard Observatory.

*Deduction of the laws of electro-dynamics from the relativity principle:* LEIGH PAGE, Yale University.

*Analytical formulation of electro-magnetic theory through the field concept:* MAX MASON, University of Wisconsin.

##### FRIDAY, MARCH 31

*The rotating earth as a reference system for light propagation:* L. SILBERSTEIN, Research Laboratory, Eastman Kodak Company.

*Application of statistical mechanics to electron theory:* A. C. LUNN, University of Chicago.

*Scattering of light and resonance radiation in relation to optical theories:* R. W. WOOD, Johns Hopkins University.

*Thermal radiation,—a discussion of recent experimental results:* C. E. MENDENHALL, University of Wisconsin.

##### SATURDAY, APRIL 1

*Electron theory of metals, volume phenomena:* P. W. BRIDGMAN, Harvard University.

*Electron theory of metals, surface phenomena:* K. T. COMPTON, Princeton University.

#### SCIENTIFIC NOTES AND NEWS

DR. FRANK SCHLESINGER, director of the Yale Observatory, has been elected chairman of the American delegation to the meeting of the International Astronomical Union that opens at Rome on May 2. Other members of the delegation are Messrs. Aitken, Curtis, Lee, Miller, Russell, St. John, Seares and Shapley.

DR. H. FOSTER BAIN, director of the Bureau